

# California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection



## UH-1H SUPER HUEY HELICOPTER

### **MANUFACTURER**

Bell Helicopters, Fort Worth, Texas

### **ORIGINAL OWNER**

U.S. Army, 1963 to 1975. The UH-1H was used as a troop and cargo transport and specialized operations.

### **ACQUIRED BY CDF**

In 1981, CDF acquired 12 UH-1F helicopters from the Air Force. They were modified for fire fighting and used by CDF until 1990 when they were replaced by newer, highly modified, Vietnam-era UH-1H helicopters. Referred to as the "Super Huey", CDF has nine available statewide for the 2006 Fire Season.

### **MISSION**

CDF uses the Super Hueys for fast initial attack on wildfires. The copters are able to quickly deliver a nine-person fire crew wherever needed as well as battle fires with water/foam drops. The copters are also used for medical evacuations, backfiring operations on wildland fires, to ignite prescribed burns using either a helitorch or a ping-pong ball machine - Chemical Ignition Device System (CIDS), cargo transport (internal and external loads), re-seeding operations, infra-red mapping of incidents, and numerous non-fire emergency missions. Since 1997, CDF helicopter crews have been trained to do "short haul" rescues. Short haul involves a crew member being lowered from a hovering helicopter to an injured or trapped person below. Once hooked to a harness or basket, both the victim and crew member are then carried a short distance to safety.

### **CREW**

One pilot, two fire captains, and eight firefighters.

### **PAYLOAD**

Bucket operations - 324 gallons of water/foam.

Fixed tank - 360 gallons of water/foam with pilot controlled drop volumes.

### **SPECIFICATIONS**

<b>Gross Weight:</b>	10,500 pounds
<b>Cruise Speed:</b>	126 mph
<b>Range:</b>	250 miles
<b>Endurance:</b>	2 hours
<b>Rotor Diameter:</b>	48 feet
<b>Engines:</b>	Turbine Lycoming T-53-703 derated from 1800 HP

